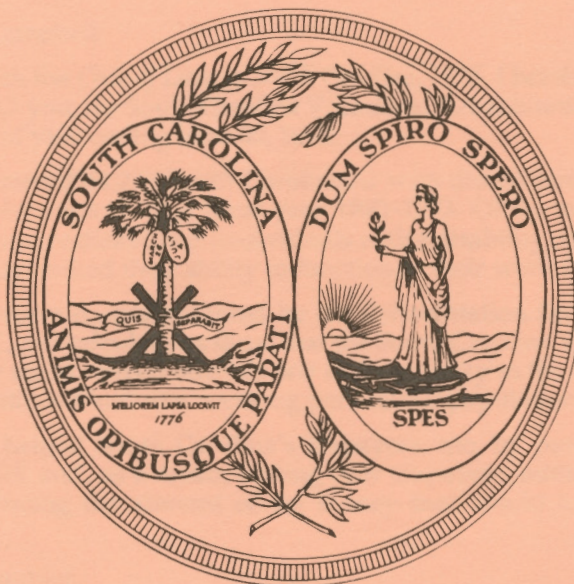


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**SOUTH CAROLINA
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
DEPARTMENT**



**ANNUAL REPORT
1992-1993**

Printed Under The Direction Of The
State Budget And Control Board

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STATE DOCUMENTS

South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department

JOE S. DUSENBURY, Commissioner

1410 Boston Avenue • Post Office Box 15 • West Columbia, South Carolina 29171-0015



November 1, 1993

The Honorable Carroll A. Campbell Jr.
Governor, State of South Carolina
State House
Post Office Box 11369
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Governor Campbell:

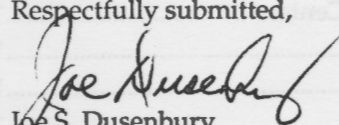
In compliance with the *Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976*, I hereby submit to the General Assembly, through you, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department's annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1993.

The department served 44,226 South Carolinians with disabilities and rehabilitated 8,392 into gainful employment during fiscal year 1992-1993. Of the rehabilitated, 5,158 were individuals with severe disabilities (individuals with a disability or combination of disabilities which severely limited their ability to function in their work lives and personal lives).

Using the most recent figures gathered by the Rehabilitation Services Administration in Washington, D.C., our calculations show that the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department once again ranked number one in the country in the number of persons with disabilities rehabilitated and now working per 100,000 population.

The department helped South Carolina's taxpayers, too, by putting 8,392 citizens with disabilities to work and, as a result, adding new taxpayers, adding money to the state's revenue and reducing the amount of tax money that would have been paid to these individuals.

Respectfully submitted,


Joe S. Dusenbury
Commissioner

MBH
Enclosure

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III. Key Staff Members

A. Executive Staff

Joe S. DusenburyCommissioner
Preston H. ColemanAssistant Commissioner, Administrative Services
Peter B. HowellAssistant Commissioner, Program Evaluation and Training
Paul G. Knight, Ed.D.Assistant Commissioner, Case Services
P. Charles LaRosa Jr.Assistant Commissioner, Executive Duties
David C. LeverAssistant Commissioner, Comprehensive Rehabilitation
Programs
John E. Batten IVAttorney
Durham E. CarterAssistant to the Commissioner, Client Relations
Allen T. Gantt Jr.Director, Personnel
Vincent Rhodes Jr.Assistant to the Commissioner, Statewide Programs and
Facilities
Richard A. VandiverDirector, Disability Determination Division

B. Regional Programs

Larry C. BryantRegional Program Supervisor
Larry M. HarrelsonRegional Program Supervisor
Raynold StoudemayerRegional Program Supervisor

C. State Office Staff

Lamar P. BrownDirector, Inventory and Supply Services
Wilber M. CorderDirector, Procurement Services
Thomas K. CurtisDirector, Finance
LaNelle C. DuRantProject Director, Assistive Technology Project
Thomas C. HadwinSupervisor, Program Audits
Mary Beth M. HillAssistant Director, Public Information
Anthony J. Langton Jr.Project Director, Center for Rehabilitation Technology
Services
William D. LeitnerDirector, Property and Transportation Management
John H. LockmanManager, Data Processing
E. Houston McMillionDirector, Staff Development and Training
Joseph N. MorrisManager, Internal Audits

D. Other Supervisory Offices and Staff

Aiken:

Area VR Office
Raymond W. Mizell
855 York Street, N.E.

Allendale:

VR Sub-office
606 Walnut Street

Anderson:

Area VR Office
Robert E. Pettigrew
3001 Mall Road

Patrick B. Harris
Psychiatric Hospital
Roger L. Pedrick
U.S. 76 at Road 100

Beaufort:

Area VR Office
Constance S. Gardner
Highway 170

Bennettsville:

Area VR Office
Larry M. McAlister
1029 Highway 9 West

IV. Management Organizational Chart

Camden:

Area VR Office
15 Battleship Road Ext.

Charleston:

Area VR Office
James N. Benton
4360 Dorchester Road

DDD Regional Office
Michael H. Lussier
209 Fairfield Park, Hwy. 7
1064 Gardner Road

Medical University
Hospital Facilities
G. David Smoak
Medical University of
South Carolina
171 Ashley Avenue

Clinton:

Area VR Office
Charles M. Wilson
Laurens-Clinton Hwy. 76

Columbia:

Correctional Programs
James L. Rice
Watkins Pre-Release Center
1700 St. Andrews Terrace
Road

DDD Regional Office
James S. Howie Jr.
Suite 300
3600 Forest Drive

G. Werber Bryan
Psychiatric Hospital
Frank V. Grobusky
220 Faison Drive

Earle E. Morris Jr. Alcohol
and Drug Addiction
Treatment Center
Frank V. Grobusky
610 Faison Drive

State Hospital
Rehabilitation Facility
Frederick C. Jones
Babcock Building
2100 Bull Street

VR Sub-office
Frederick A. Lord
4700 Forest Drive, Suite 106

William S. Hall Psychiatric
Institute
Frederick C. Jones
2414 Bull Street

Youth Services Facility
Donald R. Hare
East Campus Facility
5000 Broad River Road

Conway:

Area VR Office
Sally C. Daniel
3009 Fourth Avenue

Dillon:

VR Sub-office
313 North First Avenue

Florence:

Area VR Office
B. Keith Floyd
1947 West Darlington Street

Palmetto Center
Robert L. Stevens
Route 2, Stokes Road

Gaffney:

VR Sub-office
1539 Old Georgia Highway

Georgetown:

VR Sub-office
1777 North Fraser Street

Greenville:

Area VR Office
O.D. Parker
105 Parkins Mill Road
DDD Regional Office
Paul M. Kelly
Suite 208
300 University Ridge

Holmesview Center
Joe E. Aiken
Route 8
Old Easley Bridge Road

Greenwood:

Area VR Office
H. Chris Caver
2345 Laurens Highway

Hartsville:

VR Sub-office
118 West College Avenue

Kingstree:

VR Sub-office
405 Martin Luther King
Avenue

Lancaster:

Area VR Office
Johnny Dewese
1150 Roddey Drive

Moncks Corner:

Area VR Office
James N. Benton
2954 South Live Oak Drive

Mount Pleasant:

VR Sub-office
1035 Johnny Dodds Blvd.
Unit C-1

Newberry:

VR Sub-office
2119 Wilson Road, Hwy. 76

Orangeburg:

Area VR Office
John A. Lybrand
780 Joe S. Jeffords
Highway, S.E.

III. Key Staff Members

Ridgeville:

MacDougall Youth
Program
Duncan S. Felder Jr.
Route 1, Highway 27

Rock Hill:

Area VR Office
W. David Smith Jr.
1020 Heckle Boulevard

Seneca:

Area VR Office
Lillian N. Rochester
1951 Wells Highway

Spartanburg:

Area VR Office
C. Martin Isetts
353 South Church Street

Sumter:

Area VR Office
Emmett W. Tolson Jr.
1760 North Main Street

Union:

VR Sub-office
Duncan By-Pass

Walterboro:

Area VR Office
William B. Rogers
Industrial Park
521 Recold Road

West Columbia:

Area VR Office
H. Wehman Sieling
1330 Boston Avenue
Center for Rehabilitation
Technology Services
Anthony J. Langton Jr.
1410-C Boston Avenue

Evaluation Center
Lucerne W. Iseman
1400 Boston Avenue

Computer Training
Program
1410-A Boston Avenue

DDD Central Office
Richard A. Vandiver
1252 Boston Avenue

S.C. Center for Independent
living

David C. Lever
1410-C Boston Avenue

Muscular Development
Program

Lucerne W. Iseman
1410-D Boston Avenue

Rehabilitation Engineering
Program

Gregory W. McGrew
1410-C Boston Avenue

South Carolina Assistive
Technology Project

LaNelle C. DuRant
1410-C Boston Avenue

State Office

1410 Boston Avenue

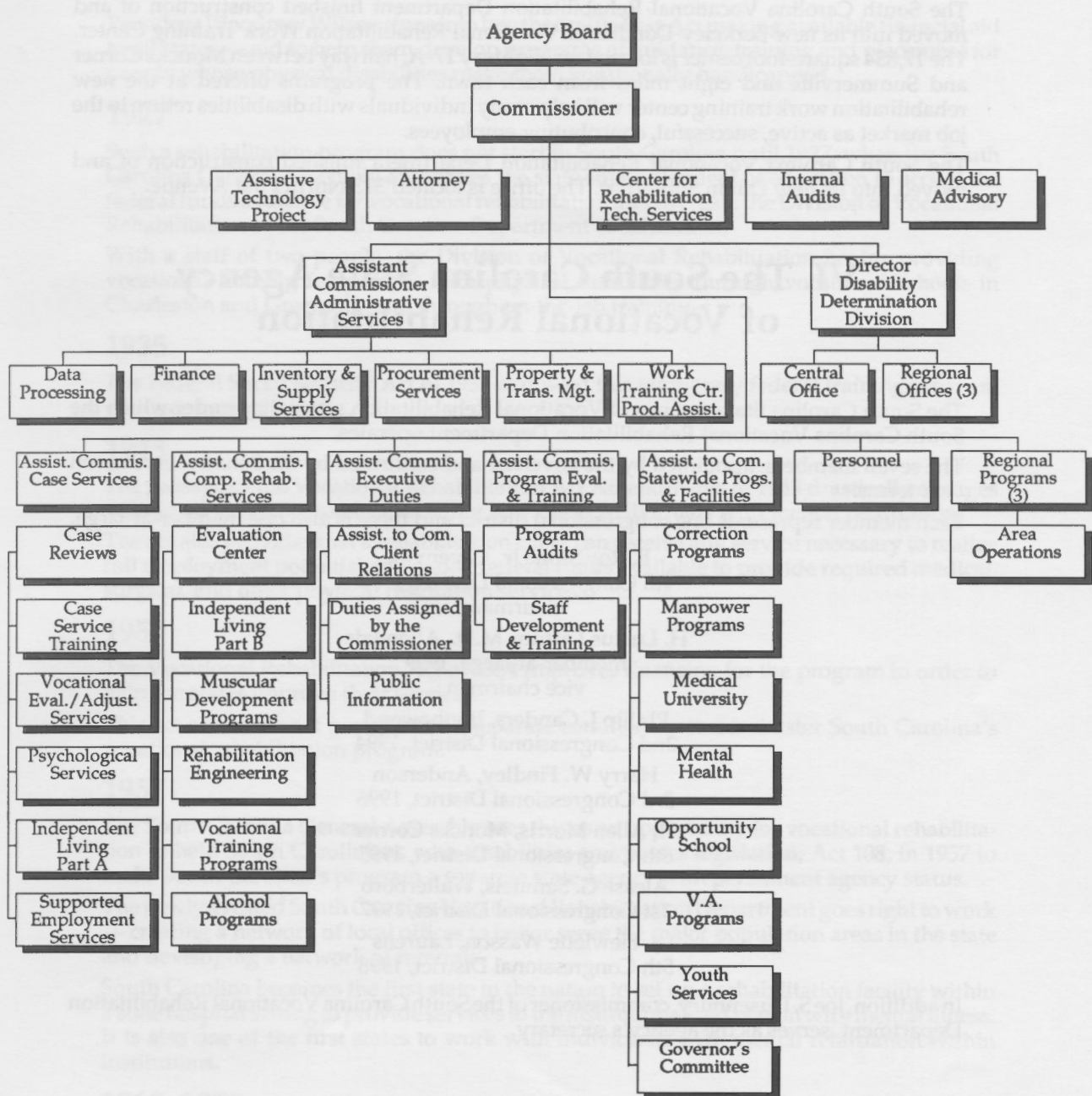
Wil Lou Gray Opportunity
School VR Evaluation
Unit

LaRue Bettis
West Campus Road

Winnsboro:

VR Sub-office
120 North Congress Street

IV. Management Organizational Chart



V. Internal Changes

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department finished construction of and moved into its new Berkeley-Dorchester Vocational Rehabilitation Work Training Center. The 17,834 square-foot center is located on Highway 17-A, halfway between Moncks Corner and Summerville and eight miles from each town. The programs offered at the new rehabilitation work training center will help many individuals with disabilities return to the job market as active, successful, contributing employees.

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department finished construction of and moved into its new Dillon Sub-office. The office is located 313 North First Avenue.

VI. The South Carolina State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation

The South Carolina State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation sets policy under which the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates.

The seven members, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, serve seven year terms.

Each member represents one congressional district and there is also one member-at-large.

E. Roy Stone Jr., Greenville
4th Congressional District, 1993
chairman

H. Lucius Laffitte, M.D., Allendale
member-at-large, 1999
vice chairman

Phillip J. Canders, Blythewood
2nd Congressional District, 1994

Harry W. Findley, Anderson
3rd Congressional District, 1996

H. Allen Morris, Moncks Corner
6th Congressional District, 1995

Alease G. Samuels, Walterboro
1st Congressional District, 1997

J. Hewlette Wasson, Laurens
5th Congressional District, 1998

In addition, Joe S. Dusenbury, commissioner of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, serves as the agency's secretary.

VII. History

1920

World War I creates a need for a program to return a large population of veterans with disabilities to gainful employment.

Congress passes the Vocational Rehabilitation Act establishing the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation within the federal government.

President Woodrow Wilson signs into law the Smith-Fess Act making available financial aid to all states — aid to help them develop programs of guidance, training and placement for people whose physical disabilities make them vocationally handicapped.

1927

Such a rehabilitation program does not start in South Carolina until 1927, when the South Carolina General Assembly authorizes the state superintendent of education to accept the federal funds available for vocational rehabilitation and to create the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the South Carolina Department of Education.

With a staff of two people, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation begins providing vocational training for persons with physical disabilities through vocational schools in Charleston and Greenville and through on-the-job training.

1935

The Federal Social Security Act of 1935 endowed this temporary federal training program with permanent status.

1943

The passage of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1943 drastically changes vocational rehabilitation by extending services to individuals with mental retardation.

The act also provides that a rehabilitation client can receive any service necessary to realize full employment potential and makes federal funds available to provide required medical, surgical, and other physical restoration services.

1954

The Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1954 improves financing for the program in order to help the states improve their services.

This act also makes it possible for a separate commission to administer South Carolina's vocational rehabilitation program.

1957

The South Carolina General Assembly sees this as an opportunity for vocational rehabilitation to help South Carolinians with disabilities and passes legislation, Act 108, in 1957 to make South Carolina's program a separate state agency with permanent agency status.

The newly-created South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department goes right to work — creating a network of local offices to better serve the major population areas in the state and developing a network of referrals.

South Carolina becomes the first state in the nation to set up a rehabilitation facility within a state hospital setting to provide services to the institutionalized person with mental illness. It is also one of the first states to work with individuals with mental retardation within institutions.

1960–1972

In 1960, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department establishes in Greenville the first area vocational rehabilitation work training center.

To better utilize tax dollars, the department begins to enter into cooperative agreements with other state agencies and institutions including the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, local school districts and the Medical University of South Carolina.

1973

The department's mission changes when the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, federal legislation which places emphasis on services for persons with severe disabilities, is passed.

V. Internal Changes

1976

The department opens its first West Columbia Campus facility, an evaluation facility with 18 beds serving clients from all areas of the state. The building was named to honor Dill D. Beckman, commissioner, who retired in 1976.

1979

The South Carolina Center for Independent Living, funded by a federal grant, is established. This program allows the department to increase the independence level of people with more severe disabilities, people who will probably never join the work force.

1984

The department launches its Computer Training Program, providing instruction in computer programming to carefully-selected, highly-qualified persons with disabilities.

Construction ends on the 34,000-square-foot state headquarters, the Joe S. Dusenbury State Office Building, located on Boston Avenue in West Columbia. It houses the administrative and support services departments of the statewide vocational rehabilitation program.

1986

The department builds a Barrier-Free Model Home on the West Columbia Campus to demonstrate ways people with mobility difficulties might increase their homes' accessibility.

1987

The department adds a Rehabilitation Engineering Program in July. This program looks at the physical barriers individuals with disabilities encounter and uses an engineering approach toward helping those individuals on the job, at home, etc.

The Computer Training Program moves to a new facility, the Robert E. McNair Building, and adds computer assisted drafting and automated office occupations to its curriculum.

The department opens an 18-bedroom dormitory, the Richard W. Riley Building, attached to the Computer Training Program building. The building houses trainees from across the state during their training.

In October, the department's Muscular Development Program dedicates its new building, an ultramodern facility featuring state-of-the-art physical therapy equipment, a therapeutic swimming pool, a well-equipped exercise area and a steam room. The building was named the Ernest "Fritz" Hollings Building to honor Hollings for his longtime service to the department.

The department begins the Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services (CRTS), funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), an agency of the United States Department of Education.

The center assesses the need for, improves, and expands the application of technology-related services to persons with disabilities and develops test models of delivery systems for rehabilitation technology services in South Carolina.

1988

In December, the J.M. Foundation selects two of the department's programs as finalists in the 1988 Search for Excellence competition.

The foundation honors the computer programmer training course and the Vocational Rehabilitation/Citizens and Southern National Bank's Job Readiness Program as two of the nation's finest service programs.

1990

In August, the department celebrates the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act. During this ceremony the department dedicates the recently-completed facilities of the Center for Comprehensive Programs on the West Columbia Campus.

In October, the Rehabilitation Services Administration in Washington, D.C., names the Vocational Rehabilitation Department's Computer Training Program as one of the nation's five exemplary programs that increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

In December, the J.M. Foundation honors the department's Aiken Vocational Rehabilitation Training Center as a finalist in its 1990 Search for Excellence competition.

1991

In February, the department opens its Hartsville Vocational Rehabilitation Sub-office which replaces the facilities located at 1023 West Carolina Avenue in Hartsville.

In June, Governor Carroll A. Campbell Jr. chooses the Vocational Rehabilitation Department to administer a grant from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, establishing the South Carolina Assistive Technology Project. The project will help create assistive technology service delivery programs for people with disabilities throughout the state. Assistive technology uses adaptive aids or devices to help individuals with disabilities become more independent.

In October, the department breaks ground for the construction of the Berkeley-Dorchester Vocational Rehabilitation Work Training Center. The 17,834 square-foot rehabilitation center is located on Highway 17-A, halfway between Moncks Corner and Summerville and eight miles from each town.

1992

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department's Georgetown Sub-office moves from its office at 103 Queen Street to new facilities located at 1777 North Fraser Street during April of 1992.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department's Kingstree Sub-office moves from its office at 114 North Academy Street to new facilities located at 405 Lane Road during June of 1992.

1993

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department finishes construction of and moves into its new Berkeley-Dorchester Vocational Rehabilitation Work Training Center. The 17,834 square-foot center is located on Highway 17-A, halfway between Moncks Corner and Summerville and eight miles from each town. The programs offered at the new rehabilitation work training center will help many individuals with disabilities return to the job market as active, successful, contributing employees.

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department finishes construction of and moves into its new Dillon Sub-office. The office is located 313 North First Avenue.

VIII. Programs

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates 94 offices across the state made up of:

- the vocational rehabilitation service program,
- the services of the Disability Determination Division, and
- several related federally funded projects.

Each of these offices provides access to statewide services to people with disabilities — services designed to help them find and maintain suitable employment.

The 94 offices include the following:

- 20 area offices;
- 25 satellite offices;
- 21 work training centers;
- 24 statewide facilities; and
- four Disability Determination Division offices.

During fiscal year 1992–1993, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department successfully rehabilitated 8,392 South Carolinians with disabilities and served 44,226.

A. Eligibility

To be eligible for services, a person must have a physical or mental disability which impedes his or her ability to work and must require vocational rehabilitation services to overcome the impediment(s).

The person must also be able to benefit from vocational rehabilitation services as demonstrated in employment outcome.

B. The Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program

These services help clients with physical or mental disabilities prepare for and obtain suitable employment.

The department accomplishes this by operating a network of offices which include: vocational rehabilitation offices and work training centers throughout the state, two substance abuse/dependence rehabilitation centers, and the Center for Comprehensive Programs in West Columbia which offers an array of services for South Carolinians with severe physical disabilities.

In addition, the department offers services to cardiac patient in cardiac rehabilitation programs, to the deaf and hearing impaired, through employee intervention programs and operates cooperative programs with other state agencies, including, among others: Corrections; Mental Health; Probation, Parole and Pardon Services; Youth Services; Worker's Compensation Commission; and the public schools.

Vocational Rehabilitation Offices and Work Training Centers

The department's offices located across the state and the 21 community-based work training centers the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates allow the department to coordinate, develop and provide comprehensive rehabilitation services to South Carolinians with disabilities in their own communities.

Each building, built from the same prototype, combines the area office and a work training center. The centers serve eligible persons with disabilities and provide vocational assessment as well as personal, social and work adjustment training.

Vocational assessment, provided by the staff at the center, includes intelligence, aptitude, interest and achievement testing; with hands-on work sample administration, and actual work evaluation. The department uses these methods to identify a client's limitations, assets and employment potential.

The center also provides comprehensive adjustment training which may include personal living skills groups, world of work classes, activities of daily living classes, and work adjustment through the utilization of contract activities, academic classes and other services.

Vocational rehabilitation counselors serving the area's citizens refer clients to the work training center. And most of these clients need adjustment training services to accommodate and/or overcome their vocational disabilities.

The department uses these centers to build solid, mutually beneficial relationships with businesses — relationships that benefit the client, the department and the business.

The clients benefit from the real-work training experiences which help to develop worker traits that persons with disabilities need to succeed in competitive employment. Contract work performed for business and industry provides this needed experience.

These clients learn how to be productive workers by learning about timecards, production tickets, proper use of lunch hours and break times, communicating with their supervisors, relationships with co-workers, building endurance, etc.

Both the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department and business and industry in South Carolina benefit from this close relationship.

Business and industry get job-ready employees — employees who have received extensive training in both work skills and good work behaviors.

Employers often receive tax benefits for employing workers with disabilities.

Many employers subcontract with the Vocational Rehabilitation Department by providing contract work to the centers for use in the real-work training of individuals with disabilities.

These employers find that the center's clients can not only perform the work required in these contracts but also that their work often exceeds the employers' quality expectations and that they often save money.

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department owns center buildings in the following locations:

Aiken: 855 York Street, N.E.

Anderson: 3001 Mall Road

Beaufort: Highway 170

Berkeley-Dorchester: 2954 South Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner

Camden: 15 Battleship Road Extension

Charleston: 4360 Dorchester Road

Columbia: 1330 Boston Avenue, West Columbia

Conway: 3009 Fourth Avenue

Florence: 1947 West Darlington Street

Greenville: 105 Parkins Mill Road

Greenwood: 2345 Laurens Highway

Lancaster: Roddey Drive

Laurens: Laurens-Clinton Highway 76, Clinton

Marlboro: 1029 Highway 9 West, Bennettsville

Oconee-Pickens: 1951 Wells Highway, Seneca

Orangeburg: 780 Joe S. Jeffords Highway, S.E.

Rock Hill: 1020 Heckle Boulevard

Spartanburg: 353 South Church Street

Sumter: 1760 North Main Street

Walterboro: 521 Recold Road

In fiscal year 1992-1993, these centers served 8,405 persons, with a statewide average daily attendance of 1,176.

VIII. Programs

Vocational Evaluation

Once an individual applies to the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, the vocational rehabilitation counselor may arrange for a medical evaluation (if sufficient information is not available) to identify the physical and/or mental disability.

During the diagnostic evaluation phase, the staff identifies those job-related functions the individual can and cannot perform through standardized testing, counseling, work sampling, work evaluation and/or review of work history.

These thorough diagnostic evaluations provide the Vocational Rehabilitation Department with insight into the person's potential for employment.

The evaluations also provide information needed to determine the nature and scope of services that person needs in order to become employed.

Once the staff establishes that the applicant is eligible to receive services from the department, the counselor and the individual use the information gathered during the evaluation to develop an individualized written rehabilitation program, a program of services tailored specifically for that client, leading to gainful employment.

This individualized written rehabilitation program outlines specific rehabilitation services designed to reduce, remove or accommodate the client's vocational disability or disabilities. It takes into consideration the client's medical, social, psychological, and vocational needs, interests, and aptitudes as identified by the evaluation.

Counseling and Guidance

Counseling and guidance services are primarily provided within the counselor/client relationship throughout the entire rehabilitation program.

In addition, all eligible clients receive counseling and guidance, job development and/or job placement, an evaluation as to need for rehabilitation engineering services, and follow-up services.

Job Placement

All services contribute toward the client's job placement.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department considers no client rehabilitated until he or she begins working on a job suited to his or her vocational capacities and physical abilities.

Additional Services

Some clients may require additional services prior to job placement like adjustment services, extra training, the provision of artificial appliances or other services.

The department purchases other services based on the client's economic need and ability to participate in his or her rehabilitation.

Adjustment Services

During the client's participation in rehabilitation services, the client may receive adjustment services, if necessary — classes in which the client works to develop social skills, job interviewing skills, job survival skills, coping skills, and good hygiene skills, for example — as well as training in the rehabilitation work training center to build work tolerance, endurance, work skills, etc.

These services help the client learn to deal with day-to-day situations and problems and learn to get along in the community and on the job.

Training

The department may sponsor, when appropriate, some clients' course work or special skills training through vocational schools, trade schools, technical schools, business schools, colleges or universities — when such course work equips the client with the skills needed to improve his or her marketability and if the client is unable to obtain assistance through other sources.

Artificial Appliances

If a client needs a wheelchair, limb, brace, hearing aid, or other kind of artificial appliance in order to perform satisfactorily on the job, the department may help provide these artificial appliances.

Other

In addition, the department may help some clients by providing other miscellaneous services.

For instance, the department may help them acquire occupational licenses, tools, equipment or supplies — if, by providing these services, the department significantly increases their employment or self-employment prospects.

Follow-up

The department provides follow-up services to every client placed in gainful employment.

Follow-up services help ensure not only that the client's rehabilitation is successful but also that both the client and the employer are satisfied.

The client's counselor remains available to the client even after that client begins work in order to provide assistance should any problems arise.

Substance Abuse/Dependence Rehabilitation Centers

During the 1992–1993 fiscal year, the Vocational Rehabilitation Department served 4,652 clients disabled by alcohol abuse or dependence and 4,110 disabled by other drug abuse or dependence.

Of these, the department successfully rehabilitated 1,191 persons with alcohol abuse or dependence problems and 944 persons with other drug abuse or dependence problems.

The department operates two voluntary admission residential centers, Holmesview Center and Palmetto Center, for clients needing inpatient therapy for the chronic abuse of drugs and alcohol.

These centers support the referring vocational rehabilitation field counselors who assume responsibility for follow-up services once the client returns home.

The centers serve as major treatment resources for employed workers in danger of losing their jobs due to substance abuse or dependence problems and provide a much-needed service for the employee as well as the employer.

Both Palmetto Center and Holmesview Center conduct Community Training Seminars for local community professionals and lay persons and operate outpatient and family treatment groups.

Vocational rehabilitation counselors and mental health counselors also use the Earle E. Morris Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment Center for clients needing inpatient therapy for the misuse of alcohol and other drugs. A vocational rehabilitation unit at the center provides clients with comprehensive vocational assessment and personal and social adjustment training services.

All these programs use other community resources such as Alcoholics Anonymous and county commissions on alcohol and drug abuse to augment their effectiveness.

Palmetto Center

Palmetto Center is an inpatient treatment center in Florence for South Carolinians experiencing vocational problems because of alcohol or drugs.

The center provides the following services: group counseling; psychological assessment; medical evaluation and monitoring (24-hour nursing); medical discussion groups with staff, films, etc.; physical fitness programs (including daily planned exercise and nutritional meals to correct diet deficiencies); vocational assessment; vocational counseling and placement;

recreational therapy; evaluation of family and social relationships; family therapy; follow-up treatment groups for former residents; and training and/or consultation for professionals and paraprofessionals.

Holmesview Center

Holmesview Center, in Greenville, is also an inpatient treatment center for clients with alcohol and drug abuse problems. It provides the same services as those listed for the Palmetto Center.

However, Holmesview Center serves only males.

Center for Comprehensive Programs

Innovative services offered by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department at its Center for Comprehensive Programs in West Columbia provide new opportunities for people with severe physical disabilities.

Here a team of rehabilitation specialists administers thorough client evaluations and provides services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, therapeutic recreation, psychological services, rehabilitation engineering services, adaptive aquatics, pain management, and independent living services.

Integrating these services enables the center to offer creative, realistic approaches to vocational rehabilitation.

The following components make up the Center for Comprehensive Programs: the Barrier-Free Model Home, the Evaluation Center, the Computer Training Program, the Muscular Development Program, the South Carolina Center for Independent Living, and the Rehabilitation Engineering Program.

Barrier-Free Model Home

The center features a model home designed and built in 1986 to demonstrate ways people with mobility difficulties might make their own homes more accessible.

The 1,800-square-foot home's entrance, interior and patio are free of architectural barriers, while the interior demonstrates numerous features which make a home more accessible for people with physical disabilities.

For instance, the lowered position of the thermostat and all the light switches, the raised electrical outlets, the added grab bars, and the wide doorways are all part of the design.

Commercially-available appliances, furniture and other devices have been carefully selected to show how easily an individual can make a home more livable for someone with limited mobility and dexterity.

The home is open during normal business hours and by appointment for tours and consultation with a knowledgeable professional.

Evaluation Center

The nucleus of the Center for Comprehensive Programs is the Evaluation Center. This center currently serves up to 30 resident clients from across the state in addition to approximately 20 day clients from the Midlands area.

In the Evaluation Center, clients undergo intense vocational evaluation in conjunction with other specialized services within the center for the purpose of determining the client's vocational potential.

In addition to a special services coordinator and two vocational evaluators, staff includes an adjustment specialist, a psychologist, two occupational therapists, nurses and dietary staff. The center also offers a four-week residential/day Pain Management Program and an Industrial Rehabilitation Program.

In the Pain Management Program, individuals who could no longer work or enjoy daily activities because of their recurring pain learn appropriate ways to manage that pain through

education, relaxation techniques, exercise and proper body mechanics. The success of this Pain Management Program is evident in the number of people who have been able to rejoin the work force and resume a more normal lifestyle.

During fiscal year 1992-1993, 115 individuals participated in the Pain Management Program.

In the Industrial Rehabilitation Program, implemented in the fall of 1990, the department serves individuals who have a recent musculoskeletal injury. By simulating job tasks and using work-hardening techniques, the program strives to physically condition these individuals so that they can return to work. There were 71 clients served in the Industrial Rehabilitation Program during fiscal year 1992-1993.

The Evaluation Center served a total of 462 South Carolinians with severe disabilities during fiscal year 1992-1993.

Due to the department's budgetary restraints, the Evaluation Center began closing on the weekends.

Computer Training Program

The Computer Training Program has evolved from its initial mission, to train people with severe physical disabilities to work as computer programmers, into a multi-faceted program which trains people with severe physical disabilities in programming, computer assisted drafting and automated office occupations.

The program operates within a modern Vocational Training Center adjacent to an 18-room dormitory for trainees from across the state. Clients in training benefit from support services available on campus.

An active Business Advisory Council, composed of business, education and government executives, assists the department in screening candidates, selecting students, developing curricula, evaluating student performance, and placing trainees in internships and permanent employment.

In fiscal year 1992-1993, 11 clients finished computer programmer training, seven completed the automated office occupations course and nine received training in computer assisted drafting.

Muscular Development Program

The Muscular Development Program enhances the employability of clients through physical rehabilitation services that increase their functioning, strength and endurance.

These services include aquatic therapy, exercise physiology, physical therapy and therapeutic recreation.

The special needs of clients, particularly wheelchair users, were a priority in decisions to upgrade equipment and programs in the physical therapy and exercise/fitness areas.

Coordinated service provision between physical therapy and rehabilitation engineering continued to ensure that clients' equipment needs were professionally and competently met.

The program continued its mission to evaluate clients, train clients, and improve the physical skills and fitness of clients with physical disabilities to enhance their employment potential.

The Muscular Development Program experienced several major changes during 1992-1993. Due to budgetary cutbacks within the department, in November 1992 the center began closing on the weekends and also eliminated the evening programs.

A modified schedule of evening activities was reinstated two nights per week beginning in June 1993.

The Muscular Development Program continued to offer services to day clients and all clients who attended the Evaluation Center. During the 1992-1993 fiscal year the program served 1,041 clients.

Rehabilitation Engineering Program

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department initiated the Rehabilitation Engineering Program in 1987 to assist its vocational rehabilitation counselors by selectively applying engineering skills and technology to help their clients overcome employment barriers related to their disabilities.

Rehabilitation engineering looks at the physical barriers that individuals with disabilities encounter and uses an engineering approach toward helping those individuals on the job or at home.

In this process, the rehabilitation engineer first identifies the client's need(s) related to his or her ability to perform a required task.

Then the engineer applies the appropriate technology to address that need.

Such applications may include the purchase of commercially-available aids and devices, the design and fabrication of custom devices, or the application of ergonomic principles.

The vocational rehabilitation counselor refers clients to the engineering program for one or more of four primary services: job accommodation, adaptive seating, home accessibility, and mobility aids.

The rehabilitation engineer, a mechanical technician and an administrative specialist provide these services.

The program operates from a facility which includes clinical work space, staff offices and a mechanical shop complete with fabrication tools.

During the 1992-1993 year the program provided services to 391 referrals: 90 in adaptive seating, 67 in home accessibility, 139 in job accommodation and 95 prescriptions for mobility aids. (Some clients received a combination of services.)

The recently-developed computer loan program continues to grow. Counselors refer clients to the rehabilitation engineer for determination of eligibility to borrow a computer and accompanying hardware and software. Based on the engineer's recommendations, the department's Data Processing Division puts together a system for the client to use while in school.

The rehabilitation engineer often provides consultation for the Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services and the Assistive Technology Project, federally-funded projects operated by the Vocational Rehabilitation Department.

Major projects handled by the program include the adaptation of a tractor for use by a nursery owner with quadriplegia, multiple modifications of farm vehicles for use by a client with limited lower and upper extremity function and the adaptation of two industrial sewing machines for clients with paraplegia.

Cardiac Rehabilitation Program

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department in cooperation with the South Carolina Medical Association and the American Heart Association South Carolina Affiliate Inc. provide specialized vocational rehabilitation services within cardiac rehabilitation programs throughout the state.

The recovering cardiac patient may find it difficult to return to his old job responsibilities after treatment for cardiovascular disease. Or, his old job may not be waiting for him because his employer lacked an understanding of heart disease and the limitations the employee may experience after treatment.

A certified cardiac program must include a vocational rehabilitation counselor to provide services that will enhance the patient/client's ability to return to productive activity. Each vocational rehabilitation counselor who works with the cardiac program has expertise in the effects of cardiac disabilities on employment.

Based on the cardiac patient's vocational profile, as well as the medical recommendation of the cardiac rehabilitation team and the client's referring physician, a prescription for the client's complete rehabilitation is developed.

In addition to providing the usual vocational rehabilitation services, the vocational rehabilitation counselor works with the cardiac patient and helps that patient maintain job stability, identify alternative job opportunities, recognize stress factors on the job, make dietary and lifestyle changes, and even modify behaviors on the job, in recreation and in social situations.

At the present time, the department works in cooperation with 27 certified cardiac rehabilitation programs.

During fiscal year 1992-1993, the cooperative relationship between the cardiac rehabilitation programs and the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department resulted in 694 referrals received, 608 persons accepted for services, and 434 persons successfully returned to employment.

Deaf and Hearing Impaired Program

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department administers a program for the deaf and hearing impaired which uses specially trained staff members located throughout the state.

These staff members receive extensive training in communication skills for conversing with deaf persons, as well as training in the audiological, psychological and vocational problems of persons with hearing impairments.

These staff members include:

- State Coordinator for Deaf Services
- Counselors
- Evaluators/ Adjustment Specialists
- Production Coordinators
- Rehabilitation Aide
- Rehabilitation Assistants

Physicians, schools for students with physical disabilities, artificial audiological appliance companies, educational institutions, interested individuals, deaf consumers and other human service related programs all referred clients to the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department's program for the deaf and hearing impaired in fiscal year 1992-1993.

Cases accepted for services under the program included the following:

	<u>Services initiated and continued:</u>	<u>Rehabilitated:</u>
Deafness, pre-lingual	300	54
Deafness, pre-vocational	71	15
Deafness, post-vocational	34	4
Hard of hearing, pre-lingual	323	93
Hard of hearing, pre-vocational	306	82
Hard of hearing, post-vocational	<u>541</u>	<u>190</u>
Total	1,575	438

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department continues to work to provide adequate services through local speech and hearing centers throughout the state and within the medical community and to become more involved with the deaf community and their organizations — thus providing a channel of communication between the Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the hearing impaired population.

Employee Intervention Programs

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department also provides business and industry with the opportunity to offer their own employees a special Employee Intervention Program.

Through this program, employers provide confidential help to employees whose jobs are jeopardized by a physical or mental disability.

The program works because it helps the employees identify those problems affecting their job performance and helps those employees explore ways they can correct those problems and improve their job performance — before those problems become too big for them to handle and result in their termination.

Cooperative Statewide Facilities

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates cooperative programs in numerous school districts and institutions of other state agencies.

These programs, located across the state, allow the department to reach persons with substance abuse/dependence problems, inmates with disabilities, veterans with disabilities, hospital patients, persons with mental illness, and high school and post-secondary level students with disabilities.

A list of other state agencies' facilities where the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates a cooperative program follows:

- South Carolina State Hospital, Columbia

- William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute, Columbia

- Earle E. Morris Jr. Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment Center,
Columbia

- G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, Columbia

- Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital, Anderson

- Psychosocial Clubhouses

 - Independence Clubhouse, Richland County

 - New Horizon Clubhouse, Richland County

 - Our House, Lexington County

 - Rosewood Clubhouse, Richland County

- Medical University Hospital Facilities, Charleston

 - Amputee Clinic

 - Cardio-Vascular Facility

 - Peripheral Vascular Facility

 - Psychiatric Rehabilitation Facility

 - Referral Unit

 - Speech and Hearing Facility

- Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, West Columbia

- VA Hospital/VR Facility, Charleston

- Public Offender Facilities

 - Blue Ridge Pre-Release/Work Release Center, Greenville

 - Campbell Work Center, Columbia

 - Coastal Work Center, Charleston

 - MacDougall Correction Center, Ridgeville

 - State Park Pre-Release Work Unit, Columbia

 - Watkins Pre-Release Center, Columbia

- Youth Services, Columbia

In the State's Correctional Institutions

The department provides vocational rehabilitation services to incarcerated public offenders and ex-offenders with physical or mental disabilities.

The department operates this program in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Corrections and the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services in order to prepare offenders with disabilities for employment.

Last year, the Vocational Rehabilitation Department initiated or continued service to 6,272 public offenders and rehabilitated 1,387.

As needed, the department provides assessment, counseling and guidance, personal and social adjustment, placement, training, and follow-up services.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections now operates seven work centers and three pre-release centers. The Vocational Rehabilitation Department works in most of these centers helping the client return to the community and providing follow-up services once the client has returned.

Since the public offender with a disability receives services while incarcerated and after release, that public offender receives the reinforcement necessary to enhance his or her successful rehabilitation.

Counselors, located in strategic areas of the state, serve those vocational rehabilitation clients released from various institutions within the correctional setting.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department, in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Youth Services, also provides rehabilitation services to youths with disabilities within the Youth Services Correctional Facilities.

As a result of this agreement, 341 Department of Juvenile Justice students within the Department of Youth Services Correctional Facilities received vocational rehabilitation services in fiscal year 1992-1993.

For Individuals with Mental Illness

The department provides services to clients with mental illness from the institutional programs and community agencies of the Department of Mental Health and other service providers.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department has developed cooperative programs with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health to serve individuals in the Earle E. Morris Alcohol and Drug Addiction Center, G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital, South Carolina State Hospital, William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute and the community.

During fiscal year 1992-1993, the Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the Department of Mental Health expanded vocational services to persons with severe mental illness in community psychosocial clubhouses. Staff from the two agencies work cooperatively to provide work opportunities through the Transitional Employment Program.

During fiscal year 1992-1993, the Vocational Rehabilitation Department initiated or continued services to 13,151 people and rehabilitated 2,437 people diagnosed as having mental illness, excluding those with alcohol, drug addiction and drug abuse problems.

In the Public Schools

Through cooperative agreements with the Department of Education and local school districts, the Vocational Rehabilitation Department provides rehabilitation services to students with mental or physical disabilities which affect their ability to work. These services ensure their effective transition from school to the adult work world.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department supplies the staff to provide vocational rehabilitation services and to direct program operations as well as the staff to perform vocational evaluation studies and hold adjustment classes.

The schools provide space for the programs and certified special education or vocational teachers.

In addition, the vocational rehabilitation counselors help with job placement after the students finish high school and after the vocational rehabilitation counselor determines they are ready for the labor market.

At this time, all of South Carolina's school districts have some or all of the four components a comprehensive program can possess: (1) a vocational rehabilitation counselor in the local vocational rehabilitation area office who serves as a liaison between the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department and the school district and who handles all the district's referrals, (2) an on-site vocational rehabilitation counselor, (3) an evaluation/adjustment specialist, and (4) a work production component.

With or without such comprehensive programs, the department serves all school districts from the area office closest to the district.

In the work production component, businesses and industries enter into contracts with the Vocational Rehabilitation Department. These contracts usually involve production or assembly line type work. In this component the students can then establish good work habits and gain training for the job market — in addition to making money based on the amount of work they produce.

Any student, age 16 or older, who meets the general eligibility requirements of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department is eligible.

A program of services is also available for youth out of school. In this program the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department may return these individuals to school, may place them in on-the-job training, or may place them in some specialized vocational training program in keeping with their abilities and interests.

For most participating students, these programs are their first real orientation to and success in the world of work.

Disability Determination Division

The Disability Determination Division processes Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability claims under the provisions of the Social Security Act.

Individuals receive benefits under the above programs when physical or mental impairment prevents the performance of substantial gainful work activity.

Under both programs, benefits normally continue until the individual medically recovers or returns to work. Under work incentive provisions now contained in the Social Security regulations, however, an individual whose medical condition has not changed substantially but who is attempting to return to work may continue to receive benefit payments and medical insurance coverage for an extended period of time.

The disability decision is made by a team consisting of a professional Disability Examiner and a State Agency Medical Consultant. These professional personnel are trained in the careful and objective evaluation of medical and vocational factors under the requirements of the Social Security Act. It is their responsibility to ensure that sound medical evidence is obtained, that vocational factors are considered when appropriate, and that the decision to allow or deny benefits meets all requirements of Social Security law and regulations.

The division operates from Regional Offices in Charleston, Columbia and Greenville with a fourth location in West Columbia housing the Administrative Offices and the Appeals and State Claims Unit.

The Appeals and State Claims Unit handles a number of specialized functions on a wide range of federal and state workloads.

The unit coordinates medical development on claims pending before Administrative Law Judges in SSA Offices of Hearings and Appeals. In addition, Hearing Officers assigned to the unit conduct face-to-face hearings in claims involving potential termination of benefits. All

claims being processed under special provisions resulting from decisions by U.S. District or Circuit Courts are handled in the unit.

The State Claims Section of the unit processes a large number of claims filed under the provisions of various state programs. Through an agreement with the S.C. Retirement System, claims for total and permanent disability and long-term disability benefits filed by state, county and municipal workers are handled by the unit.

Claims for Medicaid coverage under the "Aged, Blind and Disabled," the "Medically Needy," and the "AIDS Waiver" programs are processed by the unit for the State Health and Human Services Finance Commission.

Claims for homestead exemption based on total and permanent disability are processed by the unit for the Comptroller General's Office under the provisions of the Homestead Exemption Act.

During the past fiscal year, the Disability Determination Division processed over 60,000 claims for disability benefits. Included were disability determinations made under the various state programs discussed above.

At the end of 1992, there were more than 63,500 disabled workers and over 26,000 spouses and children of those workers receiving benefits totaling over \$42,800,000 each month under the Title II (Social Security) program. More than 69,500 disabled individuals received more than \$21,500,000 each month under the Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income) program. In addition to monthly cash payments, recipients of disability benefits under Title II are eligible for Medicare coverage and recipients of SSI disability benefits are eligible for Medicaid coverage.

Payments to South Carolina medical service providers under those programs exceed \$16,536,000 per month for Medicare and \$15,463,000 per month for Medicaid.

The operating cost for the Disability Determination Division was approximately \$14,000,000 with total benefit payments and medical coverage to South Carolinians under these vital programs now exceeding one billion dollars each year.

In addition to disability determination, disability examiners also review each claim to determine the rehabilitation potential of the individual.

D. Related Federal Projects

Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department operates the Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services (CRTS) with funding from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), an agency of the U.S. Department of Education.

In October 1992 NIDRR awarded CRTS with a new five-year Rehabilitation Engineering Center grant. The research-oriented grant focuses on rehabilitation technology applications in vocational rehabilitation.

Although many state vocational rehabilitation agencies in the nation offer rehabilitation technology services, most still seek cost-effective ways to make technology a routine part of the process.

The center educates these agencies on effective rehabilitation technology service delivery. CRTS is also forming a dissemination network — a group of state vocational rehabilitation directors, administrators, counselors, technology specialists, employers and clients — who will share information with the center and with each other.

The center hopes that through this cooperative effort a higher number of people with disabilities will receive the technological services they need to gain their independence through employment.

South Carolina Assistive Technology Project

Appointed as lead agency by the governor, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, with funding from a grant awarded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (an arm of the U.S. Department of Education), has established the South Carolina Assistive Technology Project. Funding is provided by the Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-407). The purpose is to develop and implement a consumer-responsive statewide program of technology-related assistance for individuals with disabilities.

(Assistive technology is the use of aids, devices and specialized services to enhance the ability of persons with disabilities to function more independently.)

Through the project, physically challenged citizens and those who live or work with them receive the following services: information and referral, training, technology services, and funding resource information. These centralized statewide resources will be provided through four regional technology service areas that promote easy access to services for citizens throughout the state.

South Carolina Center for Independent Living

Funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the South Carolina Center for Independent Living completed its 14th successful year serving individuals with more severe disabilities from the four-county target area.

The major objective of the South Carolina Center for Independent Living is to impact positively upon the lives of persons with severe disabilities. Although most of these individuals have little expectation of securing competitive employment, the South Carolina Center for Independent Living offers services geared toward increasing their independence in the home and community.

In fiscal year 1992-1993, the South Carolina Center for Independent Living opened 29 new cases and developed 25 independent living plans. The case load totaled 164, referral and active.

Staff provided information and/or other miscellaneous services to another 2,905 individuals.

The South Carolina Center for Independent Living continues to operate one of the largest and most successful equipment loan projects in the country. This service allows individuals with various disabilities to remain independent and functioning during equipment repairs and other unforeseen circumstances. The program loaned 391 pieces of equipment to 266 individuals during fiscal year 1992-1993.

Other services offered by the South Carolina Center for Independent Living include counseling and guidance, independent living skills training, peer counseling and vehicle modification assessment/consultation.

The program regularly conducts seminars on self-defense and orientation classes on service dogs for persons with physical disabilities.

The program provided a special two-day seminar on disability awareness for the DART (Dial-A-Ride Transit) program in Columbia.

The South Carolina Center for Independent Living staff identifies and networks with consumer groups and other agencies that serve individuals with severe disabilities. During 1992-1993 the staff began a new program to conduct site feasibility assessments for a consumer group that provides funding for ramps.

The program also conducted Americans with Disabilities Act compliance surveys for businesses and county recreational facilities. It also provided consultation to the University of South Carolina Engineering Laboratory and to contractors, architects and apartment complexes.

X. Changing Disability Legislation

The 1992 amendments to the Rehabilitation Act changed the future course of independent living services in South Carolina. The 1993-1994 year will bring transition for independent living activity. The governor will appoint a new State Independent Living Council. The council will include persons with various disabilities and from different geographical regions of the state. Essentially, the mission of the new council will include development, implementation and administration of a statewide program of independent living services in South Carolina.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Disability Recipients

Since the beginning of the disability programs, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department has served eligible Social Security disability beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income disability recipients.

And, with the help of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, many Social Security disability beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income disability recipients with severe disabilities return to the labor market no longer needing Social Security benefits or Supplemental Security Income payments.

Supported Employment

This program furnishes needed workers and removes many of the employers' normal hiring hassles and costs.

The supported employment specialists report to the job sites and work side by side with the new employees, training them to perform the duties. The employer pays only the employee. The person must also be able to benefit from vocational rehabilitation services as demonstrated in employment outcome.

Through the rehabilitation services provided by the department, beneficiaries have a greatly enhanced likelihood of returning to employment and leaving the benefit rolls.

B. Program: Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program

Mission Statement

The mission of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department is to provide paid employment as the most effective and socially acceptable solution for South Carolina's disabled persons who are unable to obtain employment through the competitive labor market. The program provides vocational rehabilitation services to eligible persons with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities who are unable to obtain employment through the competitive labor market.

Program Objectives

The objectives of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program are to provide paid employment as the most effective and socially acceptable solution for South Carolina's disabled persons who are unable to obtain employment through the competitive labor market. The program provides vocational rehabilitation services to eligible persons with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities who are unable to obtain employment through the competitive labor market.

Effectiveness Measures Federal Fiscal Year 1992

Performance Measure	SCVRD	National Average
Rehabilitation per 100,000 population	228	71
Served per 100,000 population	282	370

IX. Expenditures

A. The Cost of Rehabilitation

The average cost for rehabilitation per person last year was \$5,018 — only a fraction of the annual national average for cost per case.

A number of volunteer advisory committees and boards serve as an invaluable resource to the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department in the planning and delivery of services to South Carolinians with disabilities. And, the department also uses volunteers in other areas such as recreation in residential and other facilities. Both these save the department money.

B. Annual Expense

The total operating expense of the Vocational Rehabilitation Department during fiscal year 1992–1993 totaled \$66,489,896.

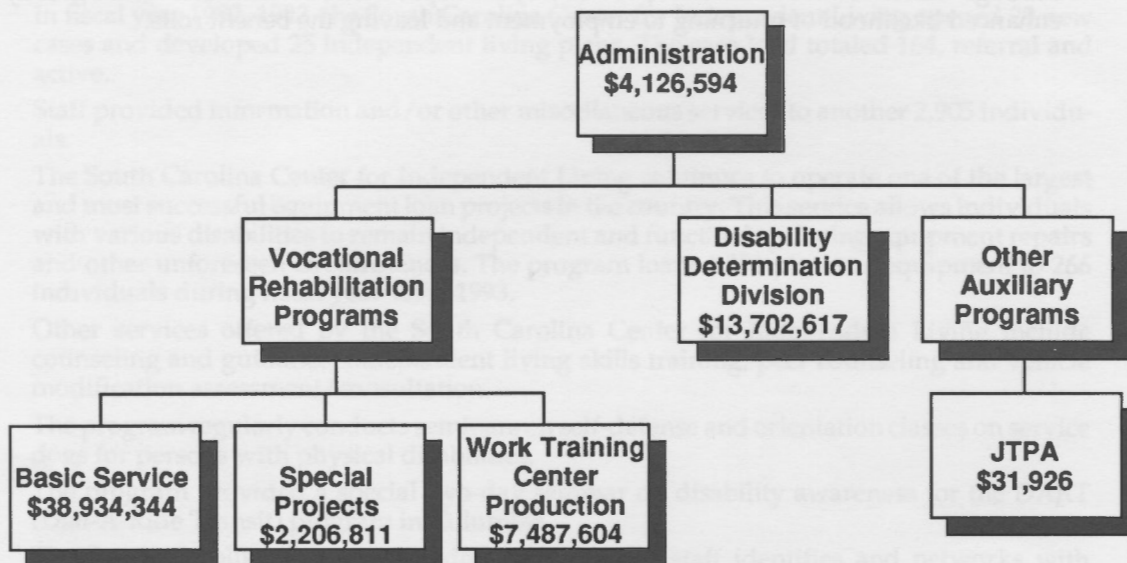
Of this amount, the department spent \$62,363,302 or 94 percent for “services to individuals.”

The “services to individuals” category includes money spent on the counseling and placement of clients (including professional and clerical salaries), diagnostic procedures and surgery, treatment, prosthetic appliances, hospitalization, training, equipment and licenses for clients, and the determinations of disability for SSA recipients.

The department spent the remaining \$4,126,594 or seven percent on administration of the department.

This administration category includes administrative and clerical salaries, travel, communications, supplies, public information, rent, office maintenance, equipment, staff training, and data processing.

Below is a breakdown of expenditures for fiscal year 1992–1993:



X. Changes in Enabling Legislation

The Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1992 placed greater emphasis on employment outcome.

XI. Efficiency and Effectiveness, Section 129.48

"Each agency of state government shall include in their annual report to the General Assembly a listing of agency programs in order of priority importance to the mission of the agency. The reports shall further contain efficiency and effectiveness measures regarding the performance of each agency program, including measures which compare actual performance for the fiscal year being reported to the actual performance of the previous fiscal year. The Budget and Control Board shall develop uniform criteria for the efficiency and effectiveness measures to be included in the report."

A. Response

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department is currently made up of two primary programs — the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program and the Disability Determination Division.

State law establishes the State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Disability Determination Division is assigned to the State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation by the governor and operates by contract with the Social Security Administration.

The department also administers several smaller related federal projects which include Independent Living, Supported Employment, the Center for Rehabilitation Technology Services, and the South Carolina Assistive Technology Project.

B. Program: Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program

Mission Statement

The mission of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department is to promote gainful employment as the most economically and socially productive option for South Carolina's citizens who have vocationally limiting disabilities, who require vocational rehabilitation services, and who can benefit from these services.

To fulfill this mission, the program prepares these citizens for and helps them gain, regain or maintain competitive employment.

Program Objectives

The first objective of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program is to utilize its limited resources in an effective manner by placing as many working aged South Carolinians with disabilities as possible into competitive employment.

The department measures this objective by evaluating the service coverage it provides to South Carolina's citizens.

Effectiveness Measures Federal Fiscal Year 1992

<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>SCVRD</u>	<u>National Average</u>
Rehabilitation per 100,000 population	228	71
Served per 100,000 population	782	370

The second objective of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program is to utilize its limited resources in an efficient manner by providing service to and placing into competitive employment as many working aged South Carolinians with disabilities as possible.

The department measures this objective by comparing costs by case.

Efficiency Measures State Fiscal Year 1993

<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>SCVRD</u>	<u>Most Current National Average</u>
Average cost per rehabilitation	\$5,018	\$10,319
Average cost per client served	\$1,445	\$2,222

C. Program: Disability Determination Division

Mission Statement

The Disability Determination Division contributes to the range of services provided to individuals with disabilities by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department through evaluation of claims for total and permanent disability benefits under provisions outlined in South Carolina State Law, the United States Code of Federal Regulations and interagency agreements between the department and other South Carolina state agencies.

The division serves individuals seeking assistance under provisions of the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income Disability Insurance programs, South Carolina State Retirement System disability provisions, Medicaid total and permanent disability programs, and the disability provisions of the Homestead Exemption Act.

Program Objectives

The division seeks to process all claims with the highest possible level of quality (by careful adherence to all applicable laws, regulations and policies), in the shortest possible processing time (in keeping with sound documentation and evaluation), at the lowest reasonable cost (consistent with evidentiary requirements and sound program administration).

Effectiveness and Efficiency Measures Federal Fiscal Year 1992

<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>Atlanta Region</u>	<u>National Average</u>
Cost per case	\$245	\$279	\$332
Medical cost per case	\$47	\$69	\$74
Documentation accuracy	96.3%	95.4%	94.7%
Production per work year	255.3 cases	251.4 cases	235.8 cases
SSA processing time	69.1 hours	63.4 hours	80.8 hours
SSI processing time	74.4 hours	69.6 hours	88.0 hours

XII. Appendices

Appendix A: Characteristics of the Rehabilitated

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department successfully rehabilitated 8,392 people during fiscal year 1992–1993.

At the time of referral the following were the characteristics of the 8,392:

76.5	percent were unemployed
14.2	percent were in tax-supported institutions
51.5	percent were dependent on family and friends for their livelihood
40.7	percent had less than a 12th grade education
64.3	percent were male
57.6	percent were white
42.0	percent were black
.4	percent other racial categories

Appendix B: Disabilities

Rehabilitation of people with disabilities pays off as those with disabilities become productive.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department provided services to persons disabled by many different types of physical and mental disabilities.

The 8,392 individuals rehabilitated by the Vocational Rehabilitation Department last year had the following disabilities:

<u>Type of Disability</u>	<u>Number Rehabilitated</u>
Mental Illness	4,572
Orthopedic Deformity	1,074
Mental Retardation	768
Heart and Circulatory Conditions	618
Hearing Impairments	438
Epilepsy, Nervous Disorders and Learning Disabilities	309
Allergy, Endocrine Disorders	224
Visual Impairments	80
Absence of Limbs	76
Digestive System Disorders	37
Genito-urinary System Disorders	35
Respiratory Diseases	24
Speech Impairments	21
Blood Diseases	13
Cancer	12
Other	91

XIII. Energy Efficiency Report

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department built most of its buildings using plans and materials designed to make the buildings energy efficient.

The buildings have insulated ceilings, windows and roofs.

The department has installed vinyl strip doors between the production areas and the loading docks at many of its rehabilitation centers.

As the department replaces heat pumps it purchases units with higher EER ratings.

The department replaces its fluorescent lights, as necessary, with energy efficient fluorescent lights.

For More Information

For more information about the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department or vocational rehabilitation services feel free to contact your local Vocational Rehabilitation Department office or:

Joe S. Dusenbury
Commissioner
State Office Building
1410 Boston Avenue
Post Office Box 15
West Columbia, South Carolina 29171-0015
(803) 822-5300

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department does not discriminate in the delivery of services or in employment.

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department offers equal opportunity in its employment and provision of services without regard to a person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in accordance with federal and state law.

Total Number of Documents Printed	<u>500</u>
Cost Per Unit	\$ <u>1.37</u>
Printing Cost - S.C. State Budget & Control Board (up to 255 copies)	\$ <u>356.83</u>
Printing Cost - Individual Agency (requesting over 255 copies and/or halftones)	\$ <u>329.69</u>
Total Printing Cost	\$ <u>686.52</u>

